



Final Chapter: Aki's Sora

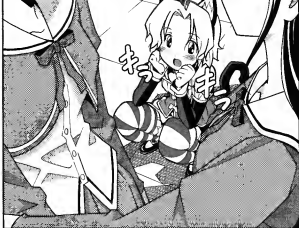












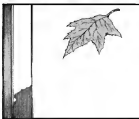


Ehe-he!

It's
Kana-
sempai's
master-
piece!
♥

Gufu...
gufufu-
fufufu
....

With
this I can
bewitch
Alice-onna-
sama....





Sign: Art Room





Pro...
Wh... what
are you...?

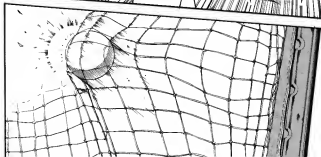


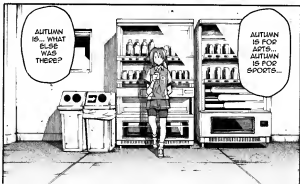
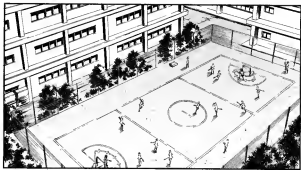
IT
CAN'T
BE
HELPED,
RIGHT?

SINCE
WE DON'T
HAVE
A MODEL.











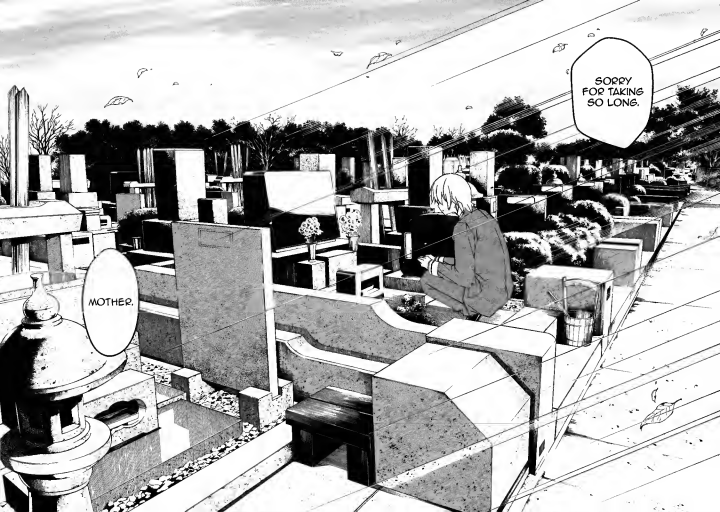
SOME-
HOW...
NOTHING
ELSE
SEEMS TO
FIT, HUH...



I
WONDER
WHY...





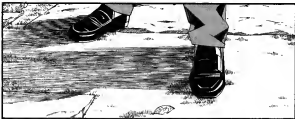


MOTHER.

SORRY
FOR TAKING
SO LONG.





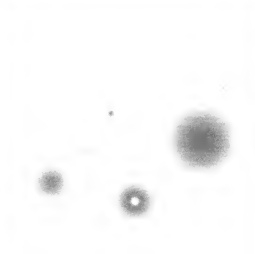






I....





I wish your choices lead to happiness.

AFTERWORD

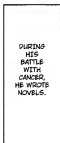
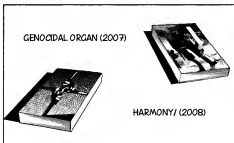
SO MUCH HAS HAPPENED.

HAPPY TIMES, JOYFUL TIMES,
SAD TIMES...

I CAN'T POSSIBLY HOPE TO WRITE
THEM ALL DOWN HERE.

THEREFORE, I WOULD LIKE TO TELL
THE STORY OF A FRIEND I LOST DURING
THE WRITING OF THIS MANGA.





IT WAS ALMOST
AS IF I FORGOT
HE EVEN HAD
CANCER...

THEN...

AS HIS FRIEND,
SUCH A SHINING
ACCOMPLISHMENT
FILLED ME
WITH NOTHING
BUT PRIDE.

SOON,
THE NAME
"TIOU
KEIKAKU"
BECAME
KNOWN
THROUGHOUT
VARIOUS
LITERARY
CIRCLES.



SHORTLY
THEREAFTER,
HE PASSED
AWAY.

HIS CONDITION
SUDDENLY
WORSENER,
AND THERE
WAS NOTHING
THE DOCTORS
COULD DO TO
STOP IT.

I WASN'T
ABLE TO
ANSWER
HIM.

HAVE YOU
EVER...
DESIGNED
YOURSELF?

WITH HIS
WITHERED
FORM, HE
ASKED ME
THIS:



THOSE
CONFUSING
FEELINGS
CONTINUED
FOR OVER
A MONTH.

ONE NIGHT,
I HAD A
DREAM.

EVEN THEN, I
EXPECTED HIM
TO GET UP
AND TELL ME
ONE OF HIS
FASCINATING
STORIES, JUST
AS BEFORE...

EVEN WITH HIS
LIFELESS BODY
BEFORE ME,
MY REAL
EMOTIONS DID
NOT SPRING
FORTH.



BEFORE LONG,
THE DOCTOR AND
NURSE CAME AND
TOOK HIM AWAY.



EVEN SO,
HE JUST
SMILED AT
ME.

I WAS
FILLED WITH
WORDS I
WANTED TO
SAY TO HIM...

HE WAS
SITTING
QUIETLY IN
HIS HOSPITAL
ROOM, WITH
HIS USUAL
CALM SMILE
ON HIS FACE.



AND I
KNEW WHY.

ANYONE
WHO ENTERED
THAT ROOM
COULD NEVER
LEAVE.



BUT I
WAS
STOPPED
IN FRONT
OF A
CERTAIN
ROOM.

I FOL-
LOWED
ALONG
BEHIND
THEM.



BUT FEELING
AS THOUGH
ROCKS WERE
CAUGHT IN MY
THROAT, I WASN'T
ABLE TO SAY
ANYTHING....

SOMETHING
I WANTED
TO COM-
MUNICATE
TO HIM.

THERE
WAS SOME-
THING I
WANTED TO
SAY TO HIM.

I COULD
SEE HIM
ON THE
OTHER SIDE
OF THE
DOOR.



AS
EXPECTED,
HE WAS
SMILING
JUST LIKE
ALWAYS....

IN
THE LAST
GLIMPSE
I CAUGHT
OF HIM,

THE DOOR
QUETLY
SHUT.



THAT HE
WAS NO
LONGER
HERE.

AT THAT
MOMENT,
I UNDER-
STOOD
FOR THE
FIRST
TIME.

WHEN I
AWOKE,
I WAS
CRYING.



I HAVE A FRAMED
PHOTOGRAPH THAT
A FRIEND TOOK IN
OUR COLLEGE DAYS.

THE THEME IS
"THE MANNER OF
AN AUTHOR."



EVEN THOUGH
[HIS] BRIGHT
FLAME BURNED
OUT FAR TOO
QUICKLY.

"I'M GOING TO BECOME
AN AUTHOR."

JUST AS
HE HAD SAID,
HE BECAME
AN AUTHOR.

THAT'S
WHAT I
THINK.

SO FOR AS
LONG AS I LIVE,
I'M GOING TO
CONTINUE TO
DRAW THINGS.

I'M
ALIVE.

PERHAPS THEY
WERE THOSE
FEELINGS.

THE WORDS
I WAS
UNABLE TO
SAY IN MY
DREAM...

I'M SURE HE
WANTED TO
LEAVE MANY,
MANY MORE
WORDS
BEHIND.

2011 3.31 Masahiro Ito sugi



チャンピオンRED
コミックス

あきそら 6

あきそら・シリーズ
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SUNSETCHAPS

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-G.T. out!